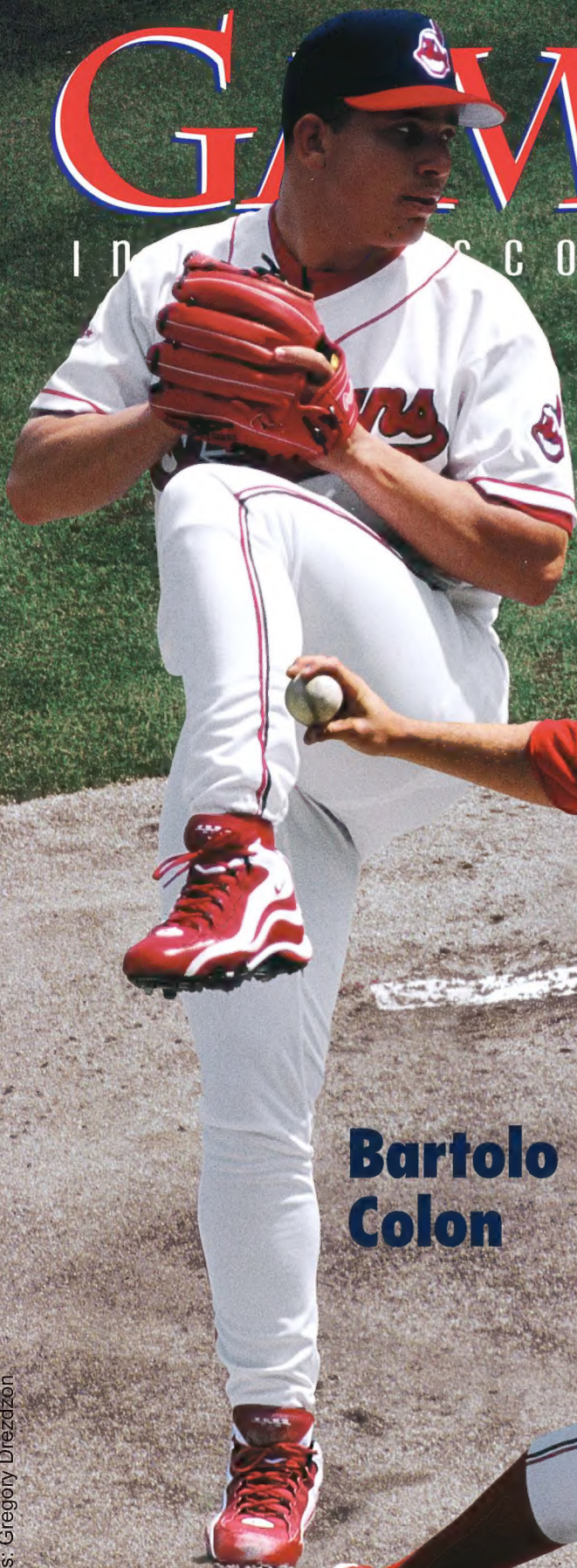
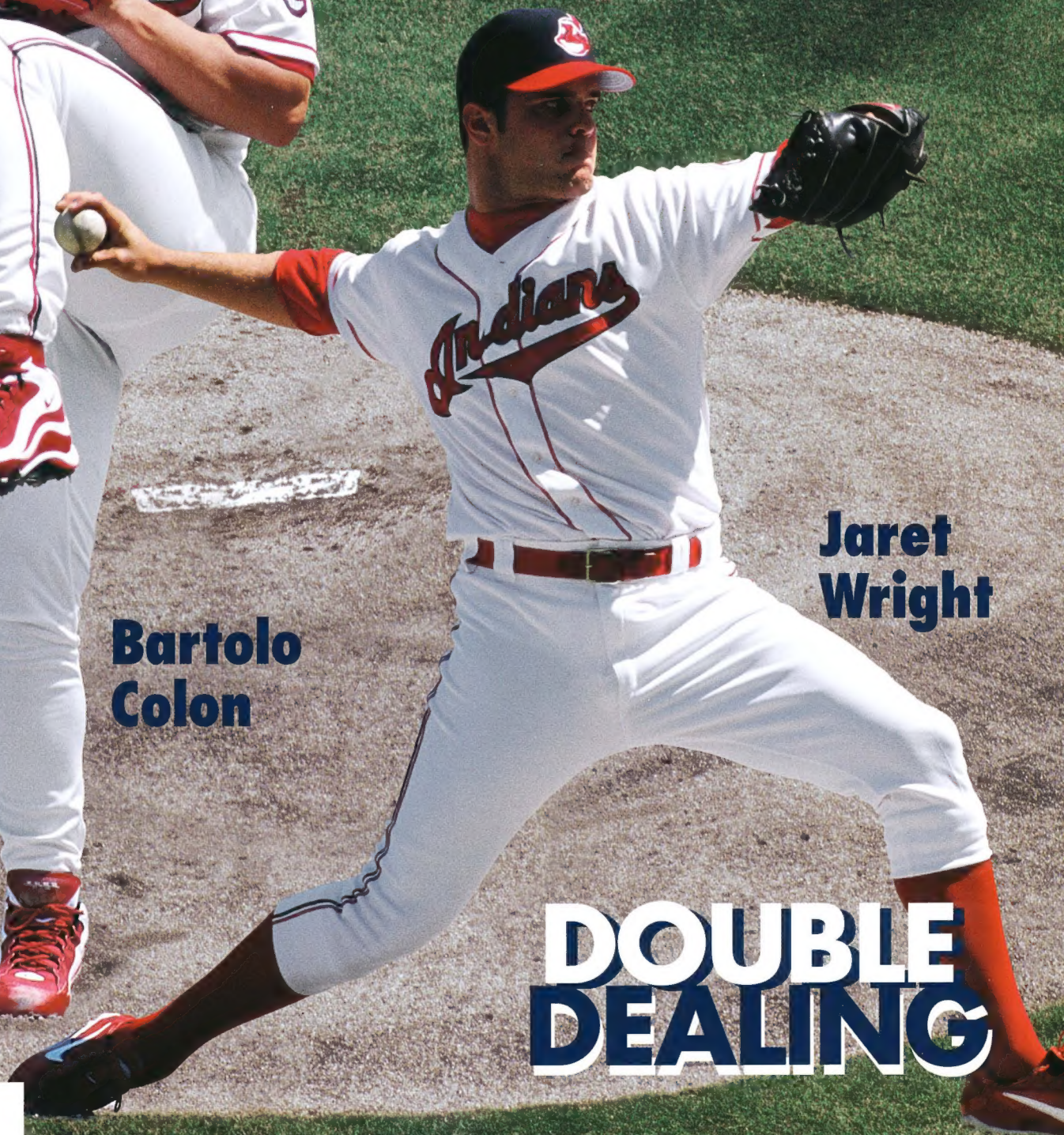


GAME FACE

IN THE SCOREBOOK MAGAZINE



**Bartolo
Colon**



**Jaret
Wright**

**DOUBLE
DEALING**

Photos: Gregory Drezdson

2.50
JULY 98 GF (WRIGHT/COLON)



Special thanks to everyone who assisted the Advertising and Publications staff of the Cleveland Indians in the development of this publication.

Graphic design by the Cleveland Indians.

Printed by The Perlmutter Printing Company.

Player action by Gregory Drezdson, unless otherwise noted.

Artwork by ZZ Design.

The 1998 Indians Game Face Magazine is published by the Cleveland Indians Baseball Company Limited Partnership, Jacobs Field, 2401 Ontario Street, Cleveland, OH 44115-4003.

Permission to reprint or reproduce any of the enclosed material must be granted in writing by the Cleveland Indians.

To order this publication by phone, please call (216) 420-GIFT, or toll free at (800) 38-TRIBE.

Visit the Indians web site at www.indians.com



Photo: Gregory Drezdson



IN THIS ISSUE

8 HITTING GURU by Steve Herrick

Charlie Manuel loves baseball. Involved in the game since 1963, there's nowhere he'd rather spend time than at the ballpark... and it's taken him around the world. His approach to hitting is unique as well as his approach to coaching young hitters, and he's well respected for it.



36 DOUBLE DEALING by Jim Ingraham

Most teams only dream of drafting and developing a player who might emerge as a dominating starter — a fierce competitor. The Cleveland Indians boast a pitching tandem that is just that in Jaret Wright and Bartolo Colon... and the best is yet to come!



40 MEMORIES OF 1948 — THE PLAYERS by Jack De Vries

A generation of Indians fans had grown up without ever seeing a World Series — But that was about to change. This Cleveland team was out to convince all the doubters that they could and would beat the Yankees and Red Sox to get there.



68 LIVING HIS DREAM by Steve Herrick

Brian Giles has been beating the odds for the past 10 years. A true testimony to the fact that hard work and perseverance pays off, he's exactly where he wants to be and life is good.



1998 Cleveland Indians	93	Indians Broadcasters	80 82
1998 Indians Championship Season Schedule	22	Indians In The Community	26
Akron Aeros Season Schedule	32 33	Indians Preferred Restaurants	12
Ballpark Concessions	34	Indians Radio—Television Network	83
Ballpark Diagram	20	Indians Xtra	97
Buffalo Bisons Season Schedule	32 33	Minor Leagues	32 33
FanCast Booth	66	Promotional Events	22
How To Score/Scoring Blocks	61 62	Slider's Fun and Games	100 101



CHARLIE MANUEL

HITTING GURU

by Steve Herrick



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

"I enjoy working with people... I love to see them be successful and improve. I hope I can tell them something that helps them."

— Hitting Coach
Charlie Manuel

To say Charlie Manuel has done a little bit of everything in baseball would be a huge understatement. He has been involved in the game since 1963. The game has taken him along several different paths and given him enough stories to last a lifetime.

Following is a partial list of Manuel's accomplishments in his professional baseball career:

- He is in his fifth season as the hitting instructor for one of the top offensive teams in baseball.
- He was a Minor League manager for nine years and led two Indians farm teams to league championships.
- He became a legend while playing in Japan for six years and became the first American to win an MVP award.
- He played in the Majors for Minnesota and Los Angeles in six different seasons.

Make no mistake about it. Manuel loves baseball.

"I've always been dedicated to my job," he said. "I've been around the ballpark all my life. People say my forte is hitting. I love to see people hit. I like to watch our guys hit and I like to watch the guys on the other team hit. I love that part of the game."

And his students love working with Manuel.

"He knows me in and out," said first baseman Jim Thome. "I have a lot of trust in him. It's like a father-son relationship. I trust him like my dad."

Manuel, 54, is in his second stint as the Tribe's hitting guru. The first lasted from 1988-89. The second began after the 1993 season.

"He's done a tremendous job," said Thome. "Look at how we've hit since he's been here."

Manuel and his pupils think they know the reason for this success.

"Everybody hits different," Manuel said. "That's how I approach each guy. He has to do what's successful for him. I don't teach the way I used to hit. I work around their strength. I think that makes me different from other coaches. I watch other people. I try to get to know every hitter I work with and I want them to get to know me."





Photo: Gregory Drezdson

"He lets you tell him how you feel," said leftfielder Brian Giles. "He knows there's not just one way to do things. He realizes people have different styles."

"He knows how each player is," said Thome. "He knows he can joke with one guy and be serious with another."

But Manuel's success with his hitters goes beyond talking about theories of hitting a baseball.

"He's loose all the time," said Giles. "He's always positive. That's one of the main ingredients in this game. It's a game of failure. If there's somebody in the dugout who's loose, it takes a lot of pressure off you."

"He's easygoing," said Thome. "He builds a lot of confidence. His biggest attribute is that he's positive. He's a very fun-loving person."

"I stay very positive," said Manuel. "When guys are struggling I don't get down. I try to find a part that's positive. If a guy's going real good, I leave him alone. Sandy Alomar had a big

season last year. Once he started hitting good, I backed off and left him alone. When a guy is hitting good, I don't say a whole lot to them. I'll let them ride out a streak. If a guy is struggling, I'll make a suggestion on some little things."

Manuel's outgoing personality is another reason for his success.

"I enjoy working with people," he said. "I love to see them be successful

"He knows me in and out. I have a lot of trust in him...I trust him like my dad."

— **First Baseman**
Jim Thome

and improve. I hope I can tell them something that helps them. I feel like I cheat someone if I don't work with them. If I don't work with each guy I feel like I'm not doing my job. I think I'm good at the mental side of the game, at least I hope I am. I approach every guy that way."

Manuel spends just as much time working with the players on the bench as he does with the starters. That approach goes back to his playing days when he was primarily a pinch-hitter with the Twins (1969-72) and the Dodgers (1974-75).

"When I was in the Major Leagues with Minnesota, I didn't get to play a lot," he said. "I was basically a

Hitting Guru Con't — Pg. 16

"He's loose all the time... He's always positive. That's one of the main ingredients in this game."

— **Outfielder**
Brian Giles



Photo: Gregory Drezdson



Hitting Guru
Con't from Pg. 10

benchwarmer. That's how I became a pinch-hitter. I realize the importance of working with guys who don't get to play much. It's important to show them they're part of the team. I can relate to a guy coming off the bench. Being a pinch-hitter helped me be a manager and a coach. I hit against the best relief pitchers in the game. The only time I hit was with the game on the line."

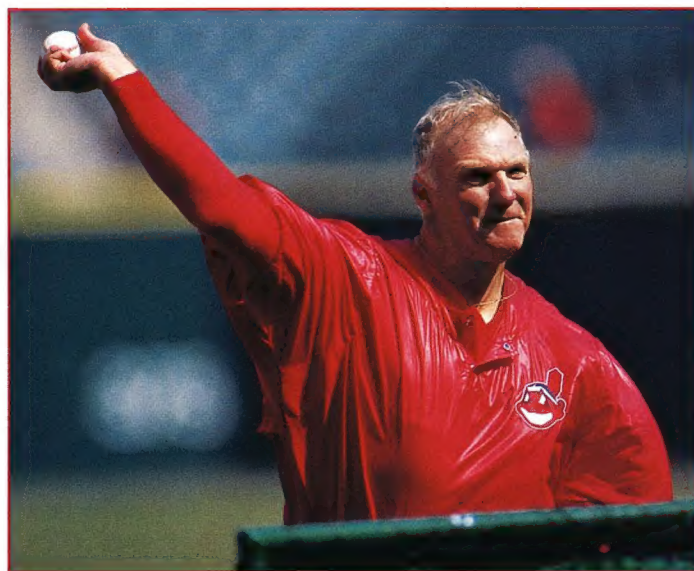


Photo: Gregory Drezdson

Swallows and Kintetsu Buffaloes. He hit 48 home runs in 1980, an American record for Japanese baseball at the time. Manuel hit .324 with 37 homers and 97 RBI in 1979 and was named MVP, the first American player to win the honor. He also played on three pennant winners.

Despite his success on the field, however, Manuel found life as a player in Japan was much different than in the United States.

Manuel's pro career started when he signed with the Twins in 1963. He spent six years in the Minors before making it to Minnesota in 1969.

"Graig Nettles and I were rotating in the outfield," he said. "I cracked my ankle and never got a chance to play regularly in the Major Leagues. I always considered myself a good hitter, but I never got a chance to see in the big leagues."

Manuel never won an everyday job in the big leagues, but he still takes pride in the fact he made it.

"I know I got 384 at-bats in six years," he said. "I know I got them. I remember them like yesterday. Whenever I got a chance to play, I loved every minute of it."

Manuel was faced with one of the biggest decisions in his life following the 1975 season.

"At the time I was getting sent back and forth between Albuquerque (the Dodgers' Class AAA team) and Los Angeles," he said. "I had good years at Triple-A. I was a pinch-hitter who was labeled a bad outfielder."

So Manuel decided to take an offer to continue his career in Japan. It turned

out to be one of the best things he's ever done.

"I learned there are more people in the world than me," he said. "I was very immature. I was lazy, to a certain degree. At first it was a very big adjustment for me. I was a benchwarmer over there. All of a sudden, I was getting a lot of attention. My first year I hit .240 with 11 home runs. I had a good year the next year and I took off from there."

Manuel hit 192 home runs and became wildly popular in his six years in Japan while playing for the Yakult

"I had an interpreter who followed me around, so the language was no problem," he said. "They made me practice. They gave me an ultimatum. They said if you want to get paid you will do exactly what we say. It was more regimented than it was here. Over here, if players hit for five minutes in a row, they think they get into bad habits. Over there, they would have you hit for two hours before the game."

Manuel also found a day in Spring Training was a long day of work.

"They would make you do a lot of running," he said. "You had to run in

Hitting Guru Con't — Pg. 18



Japanese Banner Illustration courtesy of The Gladstone Collection of Baseball Art

"They made me practice. They gave me an ultimatum. They said if you want to get paid you will do exactly what we say."

— Charlie Manuel





Photo: Gregory Drezdson

Hitting Guru Con't from Pg. 16

formation. You'd start in the morning and run for an hour. Then you would take fly balls for an hour. Then practice everything else."

Even rainouts would turn into a long day of work.

"They had a lot of rainouts," he said. "It was typhoon season and it would rain a lot. If a game got rained out at 10 in the morning, they'd make you practice until 6 or 7 at night. I'd hate rainouts because you would practice all day."

Indians fans will remember how Opening Day of the 1996 season was snowed out. Snow did not automatically postpone a game in Japan.

"One time we were playing in Nagasaki," he said. "We bussed in and it started snowing. It snowed all night. When I woke up in the morning, there were eight inches of snow outside. I said to my interpreter, 'There's no way we'll play today, look at all that snow.' He said, 'We'll play.' When we got to the stadium, there were all these women sweeping the snow off the field with brooms. They swept the infield, but not the outfield. We were standing there in eight inches of snow. We put plastic bags over our shoes."

Manuel also struck up a friendship with Japanese legend Sadaharu Oh, the home run king of that country.

"I saw him and said it was a bad day to play baseball," said Manuel. "He said, 'It's never a bad day to hit a home run.' Once the game started, I enjoyed playing."

Manuel had a lot of respect for Oh.

"He was a great player," said Manuel. "I don't know if he would have hit that many home runs here, but he would have been a great player. He would have hit .300 with 25 to 30 home runs if he had played here."

Manuel also discovered that winning and losing was not always the point of Japanese baseball.

"They had time limits on games," he said. "It was about three and a half hours. If the game was tied, they would stop it right there. They would count ties in the standings." Manuel returned to the United States in 1982 when he became a scout for the Twins. He managed in the Twins organization from 1983-87 before serving his first stint as a Tribe coach the following two years. Manuel was named manager of the Indians Class AAA team in 1990 and served in that role through the 1993 season. His teams won championships at Colorado Springs in 1992 and Charlotte in 1993.

"It was great," said Thome, who played for Manuel in parts of the '91, '92, and '93 seasons. "He made it fun to play. I've had him for 10 years. When I was in the Minors he was a roving instructor and then he was my manager. He knows what makes me tick. He knows when to talk to me and he knows when to leave me alone."

"I would come to the ballpark early," said Manuel. "Sometimes I would get there at 9 or 10 in the morning for a night game. There wouldn't be anybody there, but I didn't care. I just wanted to be at the ballpark."

Having fun at the ballpark is a big part of Charlie Manuel's life. And it's safe to say anyone who comes into contact with him has fun, too. ♥

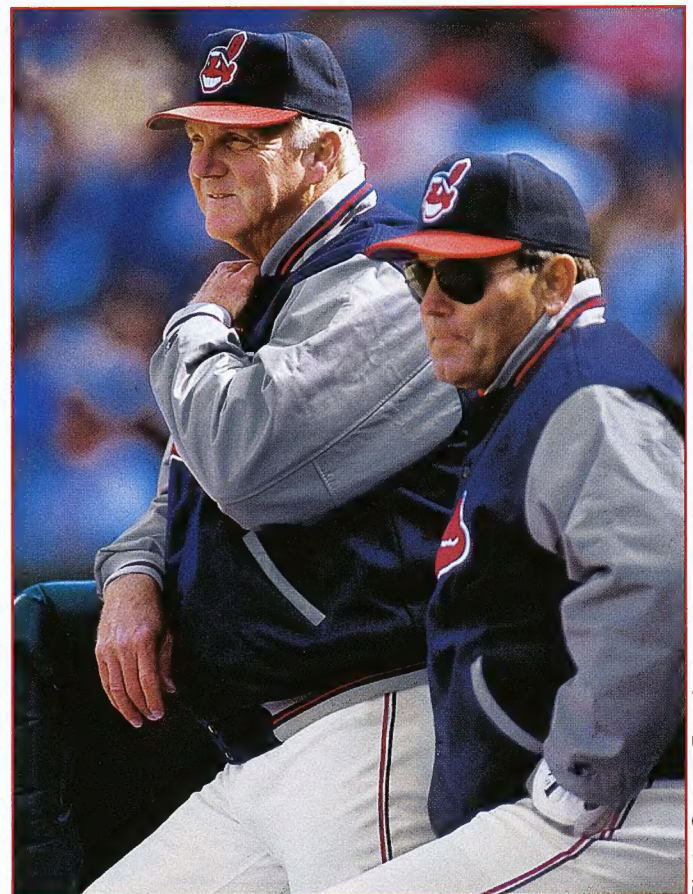


Photo: Gregory Drezdson





WELCOME TO JACOBS FIELD

Baseball's most important pitch this season won't come from a mound. In an effort to combat drinking and driving, Major League Baseball, together with the Techniques for Effective Alcohol Management (TEAM) coalition, continues to make a comprehensive appeal to fans this year. The message: **PLEASE DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE!**

As part of the TEAM program, each Major League club reviews its alcohol policies and runs public service announcements asking fans to drink responsibly and warns them against the consequences of drinking and driving.

The Cleveland Indians want you safe, because we want you back. Please drink responsibly.

In an effort to make everyone's visit to the Ballpark as safe and enjoyable as possible, a list of guidelines has been developed.

The Indians ask that you follow these guidelines, or be subject to ejection from the Ballpark, and in some cases, subject to criminal prosecution by the Cleveland Police Department.

To ensure that each game is a pleasant experience for each and every guest, the Indians have established the following **"Ground Rules:"**

- Jacobs Field is a non-smoking facility with designated smoking areas. Non-smoking areas include: the entire seating bowl of the Ballpark (including the outdoor seating of Suites and Club Seats); KidsLand; and all public rest rooms. Smoking is permitted in the following areas: Back Yard; Patio area on the Main Concourse; all three concourse levels (Main, Mezzanine, and Upper Deck) on the East Ninth Street side of the Ballpark and Upper Deck pavilion area on the Carnegie side of the Ballpark (all of these locations are open-air areas with picnic tables, concession stands, and rest room facilities nearby); Bleacher Concourse on the Eagle

Avenue side of the Ballpark. In addition, the Terrace Club and Club Lounge have both smoking and non-smoking areas. Jacobs Field has signage identifying designated smoking areas for your convenience.

- Cans, glass bottles, plastic beverage containers, thermos bottles, and squeeze bottles are not permitted into Jacobs Field.
- Due to security concerns, hard-sided coolers and containers are not permitted. Soft-sided containers and coolers are permitted.
- Food items and juice boxes are permitted inside the Ballpark, provided they are not inside a hard-sided cooler or container.
- Pets are not allowed inside the Ballpark. However, guide dogs for persons with sight disabilities are permitted.
- The resale (scalping) of Indians tickets is strictly prohibited and subject to prosecution by the Cleveland Police Department.
- Fans are permitted to bring and display banners, provided they do not interfere with the game, obstruct the view of fans, or carry obscene, political or commercial messages. Banners may be hung from the facing of the Upper Deck. Poles and sticks are strictly prohibited.
- Fans may bring small umbrellas into Jacobs Field as long as they do not interfere with other fans' enjoyment of the game. Large golf umbrellas are discouraged.
- Cameras and video recorders are permitted. However, any resale of the photography or video is strictly prohibited. Team name, logos, and players' likenesses are all copyrighted material.
- Persons observed breaking the law (eg. using illegal drugs, or drinking alcohol underage) will be subject to immediate ejection and/or criminal prosecution.
- Persons using obscene or abusive language, or engaging in any other antisocial conduct offensive to those around them, will be asked by Indians personnel to cease this conduct. If the offensive conduct persists, those involved will be ejected from Jacobs Field.
- Persons entering the playing field, throwing or attempting to throw objects onto the field, will be subject to immediate ejection from Jacobs Field and/or criminal prosecution.

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, or problems, please visit one the Guest Service Centers located at Section 116 of the Main Concourse and in Section 519 of the Upper Concourse, or see one of our hosts throughout the Ballpark. The Indians thank you for your cooperation.

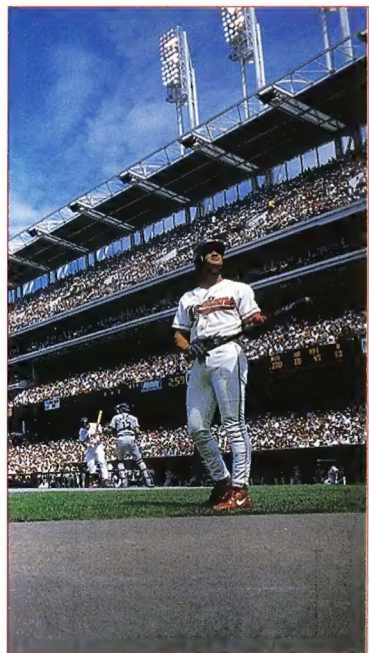


Photo: Gregory Drezdson

"It is our intention to make our home a safe, comfortable, family-oriented facility so every trip to Jacobs Field is most enjoyable."

"We believe these fan ground rules will ensure the intimate environment that we all seek."

— Dennis Lehman, Indians Executive Vice President of Business



ALL YOUR FAVORITE NUMBERS.



\$20 ADULT
\$16 YOUTH

Front/Back Screened Player Name/Number Tee Shirt

All your favorite numbers and all your favorite players are here in these 100% cotton Tees from Lee Sport. Your choice of Justice, Thome, Vizquel, Ramirez, Alomar and Nagy Tees. Other players available. Adult sizes: M, L, XL, XXL Available in White, Grey, Red and Navy

Youth sizes: S, M, L, XL Available in Navy. Justice, Thome, Vizquel, Ramirez, Alomar and Nagy Tees only.



REAL STUFF FOR REAL FANS

Stores: Jacobs Field, Galleria at Erieview, Belden Village Mall in Canton, Westgate Mall in Fairview Park, Great Lakes Mall in Mentor, Summit Mall in Akron, SouthPark Center in Strongsville.

Selection varies by location.
© 1998 Cleveland Indians

To order by phone,
call 216-420-GIFT or 1-800-38-TRIBE.
<http://www.indians.com>



COLON AND WRIGHT

DOUBLE DEALING

By Jim Ingraham

They were born seven months and 3,000 miles apart, in 1975. Twenty three years later, fate and fastballs brought them together in Cleveland.

It truly is a cosmic coupling, because they couldn't be more culturally diverse. One is a California beach boy, supremely confident and outgoing, a fun-loving bachelor off the field, a ferocious no-nonsense competitor on it.

The other is a quiet, shy, and married product of the tiny city of Altamira in the Dominican Republic, trying to simultaneously learn the intricacies of fatherhood, the English language, living in a foreign country, and setting up hitters.

On that last point, it helps that Bartolo Colon can throw a baseball close to 100 mph.

That helps a lot. It also helps having Jaret Wright around to challenge you.

What were you doing three years after your high school graduation? Jaret Wright was starting the seventh game of the World Series.

That's all. Wright and Colon. Colon and Wright.

They are the Indians' twin gunslingers. The Katzenjammer Kids who will anchor the Tribe's starting rotation into the next century.

Major League teams spend millions of dollars each year drafting and developing dozens of players, hoping that one day one of them might emerge as a candidate to become that most rare of Major League animals: a number one starting pitcher.



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

DOUBLE

The lead dog. The show pony. The losing streak stopper. The big game pitcher. The innings eater, bullpen saver, intimidator, terminator, dominator.

The guy you would hand the ball to if you ever reached the seventh game of the World Series.

A guy like Jaret Wright. Or Bartolo Colon. Both so young. Both so good.

"I don't know that there are any teams with two guys like that," said Indians pitching coach Mark Wiley. "Not with arms like that. Not with velocity like that."

The future? Indians manager Mike Hargrove can't wait.

"He's by no means a finished product, but when he is, Bartolo has the potential to win 20 games every year," said Hargrove. "He's got No. 1 stuff. We've gone a lot of years without a true No. 1 starter, and now Bartolo and Jaret both have the potential to do that."

Indians assistant general manager Dan O'Dowd can't ever remember two flamethrowers coming up through the system simultaneously like this.

"We've never had two power arms like this since I've been here," he said.

They've been joined at the fastball almost since day one. Colon, who was born on May 24, 1975 in the Dominican Republic, was signed by the Indians as a non-drafted free agent on June 26, 1993. Wright, who was born on December 29, 1975, was the Indians' first round pick, the 10th player taken overall, in the 1994 June Draft.

Players from the Dominican Republic are not subject to the June Draft. That means finding talent in that country is done much the way it was done in this country prior to the advent of the June Amateur Draft in 1965: you out-scout the other teams for the best talent.

"Winston Llenas (the Indians' scout in the Dominican Republic) was the one who found Bartolo," O'Dowd said. "Right from the start, we knew Bartolo had a good arm, but we didn't know much about him beyond that."

In the summer of 1993, Colon pitched for the Indians' team in the Dominican Summer League. He was 6-1, with a 2.59 ERA.

"I don't know that there are any teams with two guys like that... Not with arms like that. Not with velocity like that."

**— Tribe Pitching Coach
Mark Wiley**

Double Dealing Con't — Pg. 38

DEALING



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

"He wasn't tall in stature, but he had the best arm speed of anyone in our system," said O'Dowd. "He followed Julian Tavarez out of our Dominican program, and you could tell right away he had that great arm."

In 1994, Colon was brought to this country, and the Indians assigned him to their rookie league team at Burlington (NC). While Colon was going 7-4 at Burlington, and averaging 11.5 strikeouts per nine innings, the Indians were scouting, and then drafting Wright in the first round of that year's June Draft.

The son of former Major League pitcher Clyde Wright, Jaret never had any doubt about his future.

"Baseball was all I knew growing up," he said. "I never once thought about being anything else but a baseball player."

Although he played football in high school — he was a quarterback and linebacker — and admitted in some ways it was his favorite sport, Wright said he always knew his future would be in baseball.

"When I was a sophomore in high school and my velocities started going up, I knew I might have a chance at making a career out of baseball," he said.

By the time of the draft, Wright was one of the top rated high school pitchers in the draft. The Indians paid him a then-club record \$1.2 million signing bonus. After four starts at Burlington, Wright was assigned to the Indians' Instructional League in Winter Haven, FL.

Colon was also on that team.

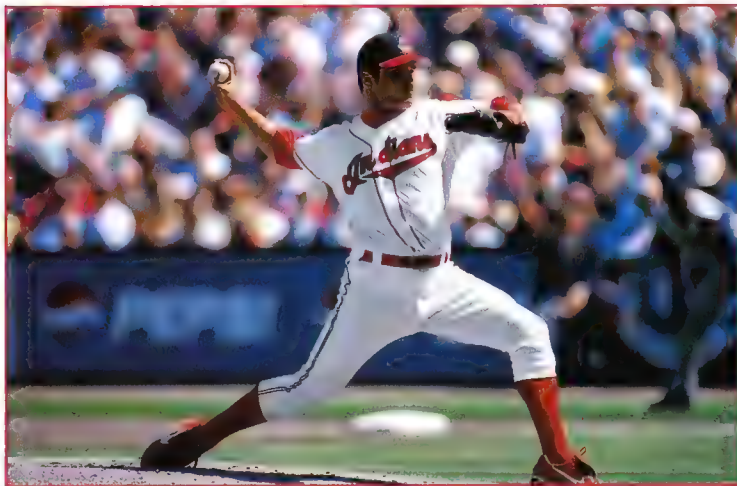


Photo: Gregory Drezdson

"That was the first time I had seen either of them," Wiley said. "And it was the first time I had seen two arms like that in one instructional league. If you didn't know about either one, they both stood out."

Even at that young age, Colon was 20 years old at the time, Wright was 19, Wiley saw something special.

"Bartolo's ball seemed to speed up as it got near the strike zone," he said. "You don't see that a lot. And Jaret's ball seemed to be on top of you right out of his hand. There was no doubt that if they both stayed healthy they were going to be fine Major League pitchers."

Wiley saw tangibles and intangibles that he liked.

"Baseball was all I knew growing up... I never once thought about being anything else but a baseball player."

— Jaret Wright

"They both had power into the strike zone," he said. "They weren't scatter arm guys. Both were very young, with not much experience. But they both liked to compete, which I liked."

Wright's off-the-charts make up is what caught Farm Director Mark Shapiro's eye.

"After that first Instructional League, we felt that Jaret's rate of ascension was going to be faster than any player we'd had in a long time," Shapiro said. "He had tremendous poise and self-confidence, and dominating stuff."

As the two phenoms began their respective climbs up the Minor League ladders, Indians officials held to a specific plan for the development of each. "Number one, you don't want to rush them," said O'Dowd. "There are specific criteria they need to achieve at each level of the Minors. But once they achieve it, and it locks in, you've got to move them up."

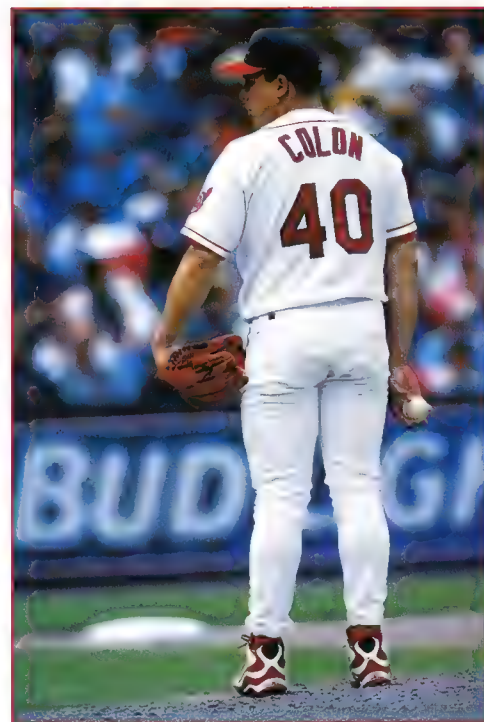


Photo: Gregory Drezdson



Among other qualities, Minor League pitchers must show good arm action, arm speed, a feel for command and control of their pitches, and a basic athleticism in order to have a chance to move up the ladder.

At a certain point in their development, it became clear that while Colon might have had a slight edge in raw stuff, Wright was the more mature of the two, and had a greater feel for pitching.

"The big thing with Jaret," said O'Dowd, "is that he's not intimidated by anything. We knew after his first year that this was a kid who could handle a lot."

That led to a decision to put Wright on a faster track to the big leagues.

"Right from the start Jaret showed that he was extremely mature and mentally strong," said Shapiro. "If anything, Jaret's mental poise was ahead of his pitch development. We could tell that we could challenge him."

At the start of the 1997 season, Wright had never pitched above the Class-A level. Colon had pitched a combined 21



All Photos: Gregory Drezdson

games at Class AA and Class AAA in 1996, and appeared to be slightly ahead of Wright in their race to the big leagues. But in 1997 that changed.

Colon was on a yo-yo between Cleveland and Buffalo, never quite able to get over the big league hump.

"We figured Bartolo might have to go level-by-level to the big leagues," said O'Dowd. Part of that was that, in addition to developing himself as a pitcher,

Colon was also trying to get settled in a new culture.

"Learning the language was difficult for him," said Shapiro. "And he was from a less sophisticated background than Jaret."

At some point in the 1997 season, Wright passed Colon.

Colon did appear in 19 games for the Indians last year, but his 4-7 record dictated that he be sent to Buffalo, where he was 7-1, which raised his career record in the Minor Leagues to 35-11.

Double Dealing Con't — Pg. 50

BES Brilliant Electric **CO** Sign Co., Ltd

**4811 Van Epps Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44131
(216) 741-3800
FAX: 741-8733**

**A Full-Service
Sign Shop, Offering
Top-Quality Electric and
Commercial Sign Design, Manufacture,
Installation and Service For Every Need.**

A Hit with the Indians and





"The hard part about last year for me," said Colon, "was that I was constantly going back and forth to Cleveland and Buffalo, and my wife was pregnant. She didn't know where I was going to be from week to week."

Wright, meanwhile, was doing his impression of a freight train.

Although his numbers were ordinary at best — 3-3, a 3.67 ERA in eight starts — Wright was promoted from Class AA Akron to Class AAA Buffalo on May 16.

"Everything just locked in at Akron," said Shapiro. "You have to look at things other than just the stats, and Jaret needed to be challenged, which we felt he would beat Buffalo."

Wright wasn't at Buffalo long.

In seven starts he went 4-1, with a 1.80 ERA, and on June 24 he was called up by the Indians.

He has not been back to the Minor Leagues since.

Wright's supreme self-confidence was one of the reasons he went from pitching in high school games to pitching in the big leagues in less than three years.

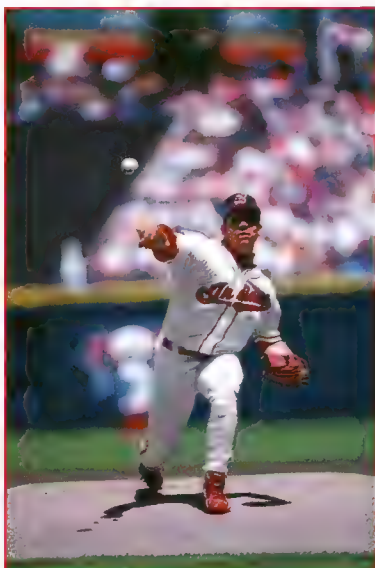
"Every day I was in the Minors I never once thought about who was ahead of me, or when I wanted to be at Double-A or Triple-A," Wright said. "I just tried to get better with every start I made,

and if I did that the rest of it would take care of itself."

Which it did.

Wright hit the ground running in the big leagues, and never looked back. He was 8-3 in 16 regular season starts for the Indians then 3-0 in the Post Season. In winning two of the Indians' three victories vs. the Yankees in the Division Series, Wright became the youngest starting pitcher in American League Division Series history.

He won Game 4 of the World Series, and was chosen by Hargrove to pitch the first Game 7 in franchise history.



Wright took a two-hit shutout into the seventh inning of what became a 3-2 Florida win in 11 innings.

"If I achieve nothing else in my career but pitch that seventh game, that will always be a real highlight for me," Wright said. "But there are individual goals and team goals. And to me, getting back to the World Series and winning it would be the top team goal, which overshadows any individual goal."

Counting the Post Season, and his time in the Minor Leagues, Wright's overall record in 1997 was 18-7.

It was a breakthrough season. The kind of season Colon was hoping to have.

"I was really happy for Jaret, because he's a good friend," said Colon.

The Indians went to training camp this spring with Wright a given in the rotation, and Colon, who had survived numerous trade rumors over the winter, battling for the fifth spot in the rotation.

Colon won that spot, and, in the belief of many, came of age as a pitcher, on March 28 in Atlanta, in one of the Indians' final exhibition games.

In that game, Colon gave up a three-run home run to Chipper Jones in the first inning.

He then struck out the next three batters in that inning, and three more batters in a row in the second.

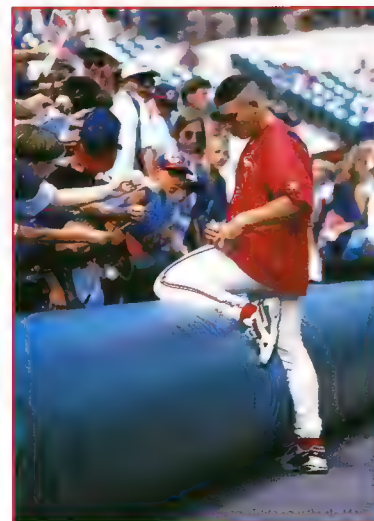
Following Jones' homer, Colon struck out nine of the last 15 batters he faced in the game.

He has been in the rotation ever since. "Bartolo knew he was in the running for a spot in the rotation, and he rose to the occasion in that game," said Wiley. "He seemed to be much more relaxed this spring, and he had gotten away from his overthrowing mentality, which had plagued him in the past."

Part of Colon's relaxation undoubtedly came from a winter spent in Cleveland working on improving his English.

"I was really happy for Jaret, because he's a good friend."

— **Bartolo Colon**



All photos: Gregory Drezdzen



His pitching was already improving. Quickly.

Like Wright last year, Colon has been a runaway train this season. He struck out 14 Toronto Blue Jays— the most strikeouts by an Indians pitcher in 11 years — and had complete games in four of his first 13 starts.

"I am much more relaxed this year, because I know I belong here," said Colon.

Indians officials agree.

"Bartolo is much more relaxed, and he's also realized that there are a lot more benefits from throwing a pitch 95 mph with command, than throwing one 99 mph with no command," said Wiley. "Young pitchers learning to work the strike zone are like young hitters learning the strike zone. Bartolo and Jaret are both learning how to work the strike zone this year."

Wiley said it's all a part of a pitcher's natural progression.

"When young pitchers first come up, the tendency is for them to try to throw every pitch as hard as they can into the strike zone, because they feel that's what got them there," said Wiley. "But what's important is throwing quality strikes. And that's what Bartolo and Jaret are learning to do."

Indeed, as this season progressed, Colon's pitch counts have gone down, and his success rate has gone up.

"I'm just going for outs. I'm not trying to strike out every hitter," he said. Wright said he is also more of a pitcher than a thrower this year.

"I'm using all my pitches this year," he said. "I'm not trying to blow everyone away. With men on base, I'll try to get the ground ball for a double play instead of trying to get the two punchouts (strikeouts)."

With the kind of stuff Wright and Colon have, getting command of their pitches was the last stage of their development.

"The reason these guys are the ideal type of pitchers you want," said O'Dowd, "is that they are power pitchers, and power is something you take out there with you every fifth day. Now if you can command and control your power stuff, which Jaret and Bartolo have been able to do, that's the great equalizer when you're trying to get hitters out. They can both be behind in the count at 3-1, and still challenge hitters."

And that's what the Indians hope Wright and Colon will be doing well into the next century: challenge the hitters and be the eventual 1-2 punch around which the Indians will build their rotation.

"I wouldn't say either one of these kids have been a surprise to us," O'Dowd said. "We knew right from the start that they were special." ♥

DIFFERENT, BUT SPECIAL.



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

SABR: The Cleveland Connection

Cleveland is home of the international Society for American Baseball Research and its Jack Graney Chapter. If you have a passion for baseball, SABR is the best ticket for year-round baseball enjoyment.

What did Jim Thome do in 1997 that had been done only 16 other times in the majors this century?

Which father-son pitching combo has better stats-- the Bagby's or the Stottlemire's?

What offensive statistics do Gus and Buddy Bell rank first in for fathers and sons?

Find out when you join SABR before September 15, 1998.

1998 SABR Membership includes:

- ♦ Baseball Research Journal & The National Pastime
- ♦ An Addie Joss biography, newsletters & discounts

For \$35 a calendar year, you can't strike out with SABR!

For more information:

SABR, Dept GF, PO Box 93183, Cleveland OH 44101
1-800-969-SABR (7227) or 216-575-0500
INFO@SABR.ORG

Visit the SABR Booth at Section 317 in Jacobs Field.







HOW TO SCORE

Baseball fans can enjoy the sport to the fullest extent by keeping track of the game and pinpointing those big plays that bring victory or defeat. All you need is a basic knowledge of the rules.

Although there are countless scoring methods, experts use a simple code based on numbering players by position and tracing action through the use of symbols. It's easy and fun.

In fact, why not devise your own scoring system with the basic suggestions on this page.

One such suggestion on player substitutions is to use a heavy or wavy line under or over a box to indicate a change, either of a player or batter.

If a batter flies to the rightfielder, merely use the figure 9. If it is a foul fly, use 9F.

Now that you are an official "scorer," you can really enjoy baseball games.

TEAM	Pos.	1	2
Rightfielder	9	4-6 W	
2nd Baseman	4	3 ④FO	
1st Baseman	3	=	
Centerfielder	8	SF 8	
Designated Hitter	DH	K	
Leftfielder	7		4-6 —
Catcher	2		DP 4-6-3
3rd Baseman	5		⊖
Shortstop	6		7
Pitcher	1		
TOTALS	R / H	1 / 1	1 / 2

Walked and was forced out at second (2nd baseman to shortstop).

Reached first on fielder's choice when runner was forced out, advanced to third on a double by 3rd place hitter, scored on 4th place hitter's sacrifice fly.

Doubled; did not advance further.

Flied out to center field scoring runner on third.

Struck out — end of the inning.

Singled: later forced out at second (2nd baseman to shortstop in first half of double play).

Hit into double play (2nd baseman to shortstop to 1st baseman).

Hit home run.

Flied out to leftfielder — end of inning.



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

Can You Score This Play ?

The ball was hit to the shortstop, who threw it to the second baseman. The second baseman was able to force out the runner who had been at first. He then threw the ball to the first baseman to get the batter out, turning a double play.

In this example...

The hitter reached first base on a walk, stole second, advanced to third on a pitcher's balk, and scored on a wild pitch.

BK	SB
⊖	W

Use these SYMBOLS for Plays

Single	—
Double	=
Triple	≡
Home Run	≡≡
Error	E
Foul Fly	F
Double Play	DP
Fielder's Choice	FC
Hit by Pitcher	HP
Wild Pitch	WP
Stolen Base	SB
Sacrifice Hit	SH
Sacrifice Fly	SF
Caught Stealing	CS
Passed Ball	PB
Balk	BK
Struck Out	K
Base on Balls	BB
Forced Out	FO
Intentional Walk	IW





BRIAN GILES

LIVING HIS DREAM

by Steve Herrick

Brian Giles is living proof that a player doesn't have to be a highly rated prospect to make it to the big leagues.

Giles has been beating the odds since he was the Indians' 17th round draft pick in 1989. He climbed the Minor League ladder, putting up solid numbers at every stop, until finally reaching the Majors for good midway through the 1996 season.

It's a testimony to hard work and perseverance. It's a testimony to someone who didn't listen to the doubters. It's a testimony to someone who endured the long bus rides in the Minors and never gave up his dream.

"To me, the way I look at it, nothing was given to me when I was young so why should it change now?" said Giles. "To me the fun part was proving people wrong. When I was at Double-A and put up the numbers, people said I wouldn't do it at Triple-A. When I put numbers up at Triple-A, people said I wouldn't do it again."

"People have tried to bury and release Brian Giles for a number of years, especially in the Minor Leagues," said Indians manager Mike Hargrove. "Through hard work and dogged determination, he's shown people he can play."

Indians General Manager John Hart showed what the organization thinks of the 27-year-old Giles by giving him a long-term contract earlier this season. On April 14, Giles signed a three-year extension through 2001. The Indians hold a club option for 2002.



"It's fun to break in with the team you're drafted by and know you're going to be here for a while," said Giles. "It shows they like the way you're going about your business."

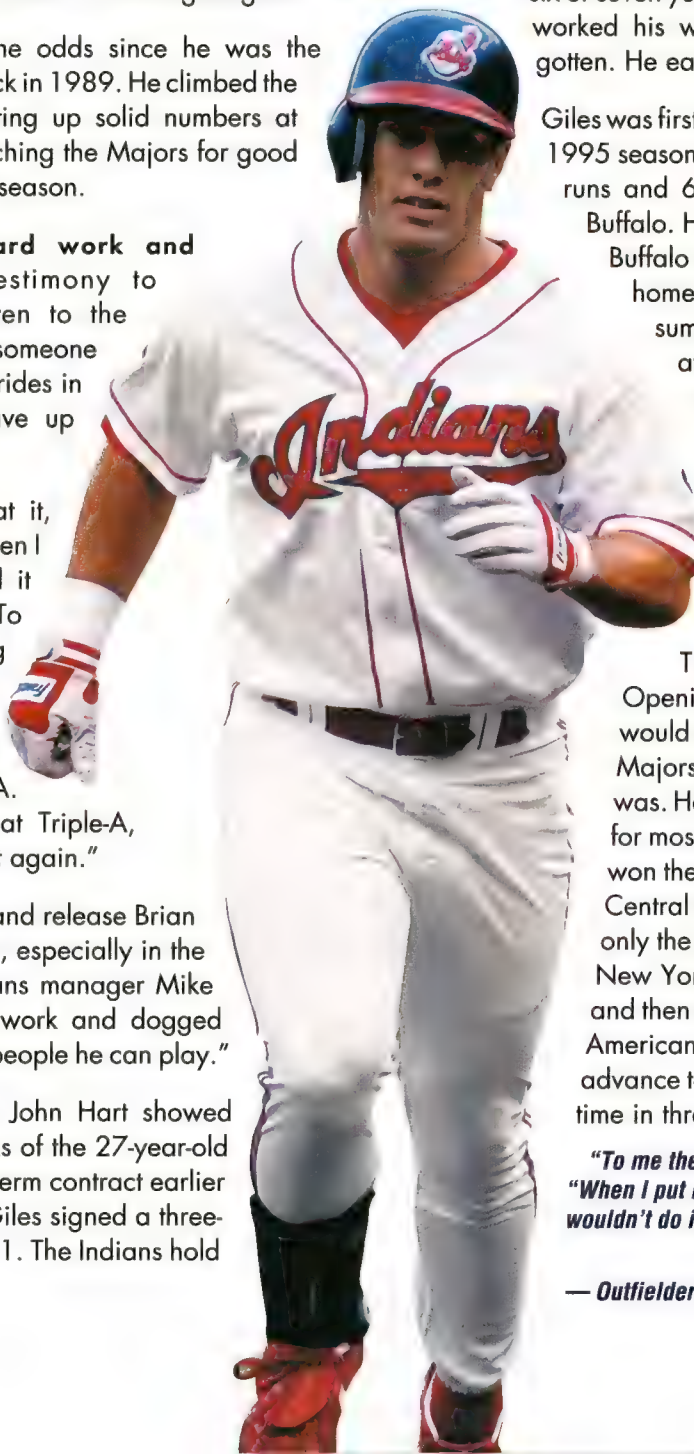
"He came up through the Minor Leagues," said Indians hitting instructor Charlie Manuel. "He was in the Minors for six or seven years. He's one of those guys who's worked his way up. He deserves what he's gotten. He earned it."

Giles was first called up to the Indians late in the 1995 season after batting .310 with 15 home runs and 67 runs batted in at Class AAA Buffalo. He started the following season at Buffalo and was hitting .314 with 20 homers and 64 RBI when the Indians summoned him on July 12. In his first at-bat with the Tribe that night, he hit a two-run, pinch-hit homer against Minnesota, a game the Indians won in extra innings. Giles provided a big boost the rest of the season, hitting .355 with five homers and 27 RBI in only 51 games.

That earned him a spot on the Opening Day roster in 1997, which would be his first full season in the Majors. And what a first full season it was. He was a fixture in the Tribe outfield for most of the second half as the Indians won their third straight American League Central Division title. The excitement was only the beginning. The Indians upset the New York Yankees in the Division Series and then upset the Baltimore Orioles in the American League Championship Series to advance to the World Series for the second time in three years.

"To me the fun part was proving people wrong... "When I put numbers up at Triple-A, people said I wouldn't do it again."

— Outfielder Brian Giles



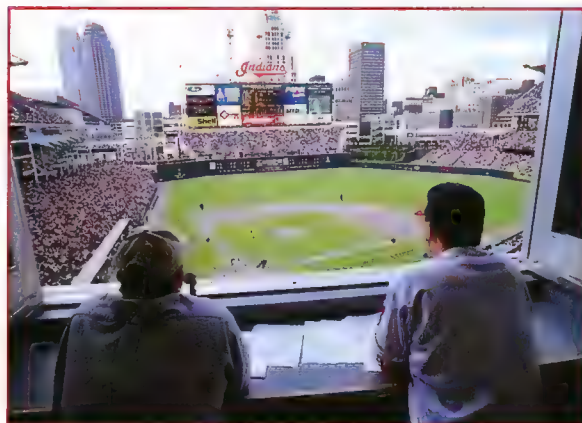
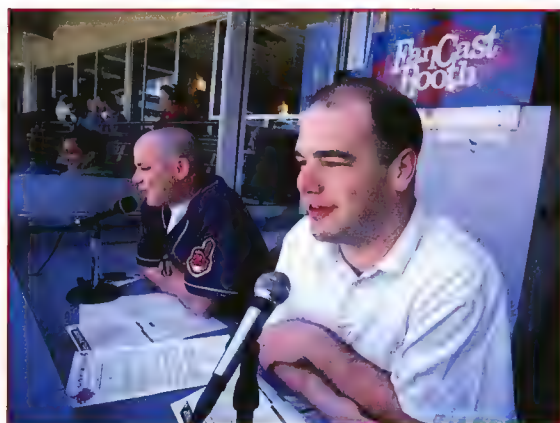
Did you ever wonder what it's like to be the voice of the Cleveland Indians?

Here's your chance!

**Visit
the**



FanCast Booth



All photos: Gregory Drezdson

- ◆ Call an inning of Tribe Baseball, just like Tom Hamilton, Dave Nelson, and Mike Hegan — complete with a broadcast booth view and press materials.
- ◆ All proceeds benefit Cleveland Indians Charities.
- ◆ Cost is \$30 for two broadcasters — \$20 for one (price includes an audio tape for each broadcaster and does not include game ticket).

Reservations: Please call the Community Relations department at (216) 420-4262 or stop by Guest Services, Section 116, during any home game and become a Major League broadcaster.



It was some season, indeed.

"I look back and there are so many guys who don't get a shot at playing in the World Series their whole careers, and I got a chance in my first full season in the big leagues," Giles said.

Giles batted .268 with 17 homers and 61 RBI in 130 games last season.

"It was a lot of fun," he said. "From mid-June on, I got to play a lot. I felt I did a decent job. It was exciting getting a chance to play every day. When it was all over I think they liked the kind of numbers I put up."



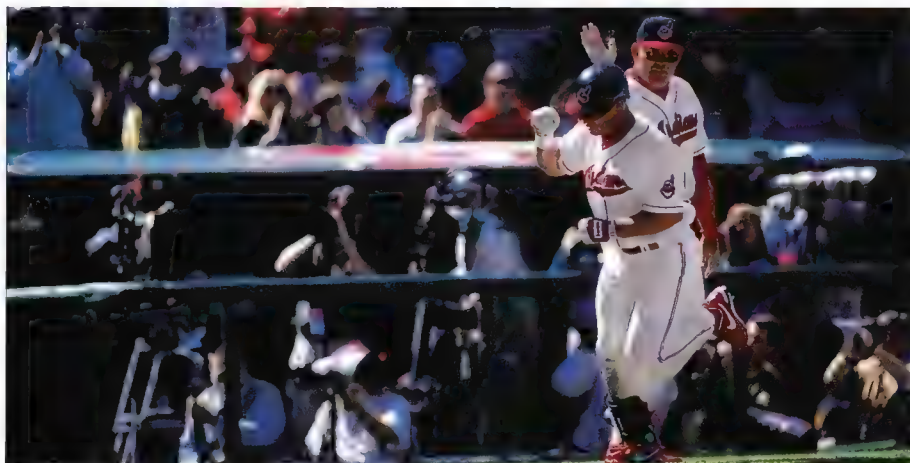
All photos: Gregory Drezdson

Giles hit .222 and drove in four runs in 14 post-season games. He also had two big moments in the field during the Division Series. The Indians were one game from elimination going into Game 4. The Yankees jumped on top 2-0 in the first inning. It looked like they were going to score again when Charlie Hayes singled to left field, but Giles made a strong throw to the plate to get Tino Martinez.

How big was Giles' play? Had Martinez scored, the Yankees would have been up by three runs and it would have been difficult for the Indians to come back. Instead, the lead stayed at 2-0 and the Yankees didn't score again. The Indians rallied to tie the game and won it in the bottom of the ninth.

"I didn't really think about it," Giles said. "I was trying to make a play. When it was all said and done, we won the game 3-2. They were kind of on the verge of blowing us out. That was a big play. It gave us some momentum and kind of shot their big inning down."

The decisive Game 5 was the following night. The Indians jumped to a 4-0 lead, but the Yankees, defending World Champions at the time, battled back to make it a one-run game going into the ninth. With the tying run at second, two outs, and the Jacobs Field crowd on its feet, Bernie Williams, stepped in against Jose Mesa. Williams swung and history was headed Giles' way. When he finally squeezed the final out, a celebration broke out on the field and in the stands.



"It seemed like it was up there for 10 seconds," Giles said. "My heart was beating a little bit faster than usual. Marquis Grissom wanted me to give him a high-five, but I missed. Then I saw everybody in the infield jumping up and down and I ran in."

If people thought that series was exciting, they hadn't seen anything yet. The Orioles, best team in the league throughout the regular season, were favored to win the American League Championship Series, but the Indians won in six games. All four victories were by one run.

"I look back and there are so many guys who don't get a shot at playing in the World Series their whole careers, and I got a chance in my first full season in the big leagues,"

— Brian Giles

Giles can't — Pg. 70





Photo: Gregory Drezdson

Giles Con't from Pg. 69

"The whole Post Season was stressful, especially the way we were winning games," he said. "It was back and forth. I had so much adrenaline flowing, I wasn't going to bed until 3 or 3:30 in the morning. I was so excited, I wanted to get back to the field when I'd get up at 9 or 9:30. It was definitely a draining experience."

The victories put the Tribe against the Florida Marlins in the World Series.

"There's so much pressure to get there (the World Series), especially the way we were playing," said Giles. "It was so much fun in the Division Series and in the Orioles series. To get there was a sigh of relief."

The World Series was exciting, too, but the Indians fell two outs short of their first title since 1948. Still, Giles took more good thoughts than bad ones into the off-season.

Giles con't — Pg. 88



The Men's Competition jacket. Removable quilted lining for versatility. Zippered cuffs keep out wind. Removable durable shoulder pads. Harley-Davidson® MotorClothes® riding leathers.

www.harley-davidson.com ©1998 H-D.

LET'S YOU BE YOUR OWN BODYGUARD.

Mention this ad and receive 10% off your next MotorClothes or Genuine Parts and Accessories sale at any of these participating dealers.



South East Harley-Davidson
23105 Aurora Rd. Bedford Heights, OH
(440) 439-5300

Elyria Harley-Davidson
561 Cleveland St. Elyria, OH
(440) 365-7354

Harley-Davidson Sales of Cleveland
14550 Lorain Ave. Cleveland, OH
(216) 252-3111



Brian, Doddie, Tango & Cashay Giles

Giles Con't from Pg. 70

"I look at things positively," he said. "The game already is negative enough and has enough disappointments. We couldn't get the last couple of outs. It was a lot of fun for us and the fans. The whole city didn't sleep much for three weeks."

Once the season ended Giles realized what he had just experienced.

"I think it hit me a couple of weeks into the off-season," he said. "I'd go somewhere and people would say it was awesome seeing you in the playoffs. That's when I'd stop and think about it."

However, Giles didn't have much time to kick back and relax in the off-season. The highlight came on November 22 when he and his fiancée, Doddie Burroughs, were married.

"I got home, had a week off, went on the Indians cruise, had a week off, and then got married," he said. "It was hectic. Before I knew it, I had eaten turkey and opened presents."

Giles carried the momentum into this season. He homered twice in his first start of the season. Six of his first 10 hits left the ballpark.

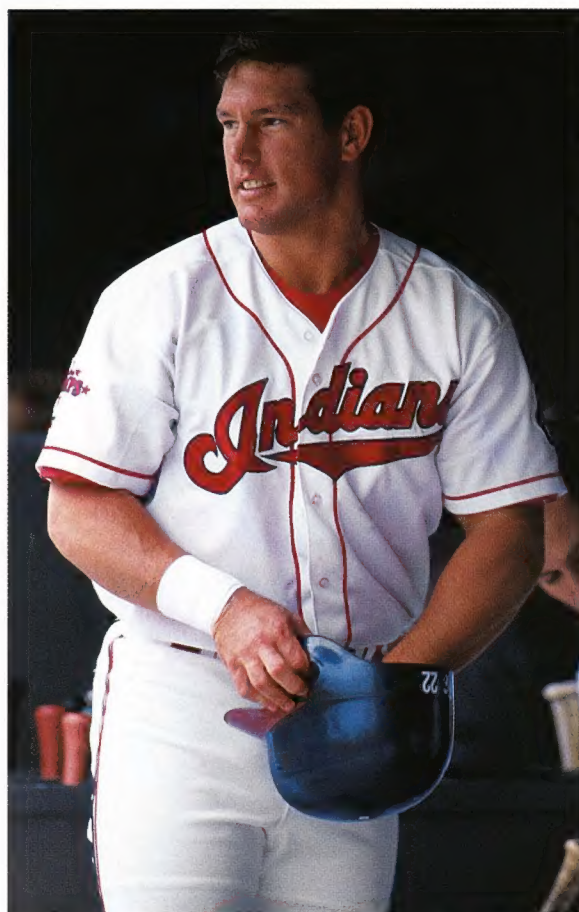


Photo: Gregory Drezdson

Giles Con't — Pg. 90



THE PLAYERS



Photo: Gregory Drezdson



"HEIGH HO, HEIGH HO, IT'S OFF TO WORK WE GO..."

BOTTOM OF THE NINTH



Photo: Gregory Drezdson